

In the claims:

1. (currently amended) ~~Method~~ A method for positioning a flexible printing plate on a carrier, comprising the following steps of:

[[--]]placing on a table the flexible printing plate for positioning;

[[--]]determining the position of the printing plate by means of a visual display device; and

[[--]]depending on the position, moving the printing plate to its end position on the carrier,

characterized in that the position of the carrier is sensed in the vicinity of the final position and that the carrier is moved to its end position depending on the position sensed in the vicinity of the final position.

2. (currently amended) ~~Method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that~~
The method of claim 1, wherein the position of the printing plate in the vicinity of its end position is sensed by a camera.

3. (currently amended) ~~Method as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that~~
The method of claim 2, wherein the actual position of the printing plate and the end position of the printing plate are compared in a digital device coupled to the camera.

4. (currently amended) ~~Method as claimed in claim 3, characterized in that~~
The method of claim 3, wherein the displacement is controlled subject to the result of the comparison.

5. (currently amended) ~~Method as claimed in any of the foregoing claims, characterized in that~~ The method of claim 1, wherein the several printing plates positioned on the table are positioned successively.

6. (currently amended) ~~Method as claimed in claim 2, comprising of~~ The method of claim 2, further comprising the camera zooming-in on the printing plate in order to increase the accuracy of the positioning of the printing plate.

7. (currently amended) ~~Method as claimed in any of the foregoing claims, comprising of~~ The method of claim 1, further comprising repeating the sensing of the position of the carrier and the comparison of the sensed position to the end position until the end position has been obtained with sufficient accuracy.

8. (currently amended) ~~Method as claimed in any of the foregoing claims,~~ The method of claim 1, wherein placing on a table of the flexible printing plate for positioning and determining of the position of the printing plate by means of a visual display device take place simultaneously.

9. (currently amended) ~~Device~~ A device for positioning a printing plate on a carrier, comprising a table for positioning the at least one printing plate for positioning, support means for supporting the carrier on which the printing plate must be positioned, at least one camera for recording the image of the printing plate, a manipulator for transporting the printing plate to the carrier placed on the support means, and a control means which is adapted to control the manipulator and which is connected to the camera to obtain signals coming from the camera, characterized in that the at least one camera is placed for sensing the printing plate in the vicinity of the support means.

10. (currently amended) ~~Device as claimed in claim 9, characterized in that the device comprises~~ The device of claim 9, further comprising a digital device for comparing the actual position of the printing plate and the desired end position of the printing plate.

11. (currently amended) ~~Device as claimed in claim 10, characterized in that~~ The device of claim 10, wherein the digital device is adapted to control the displacement subject to the result of the comparison.

12. (currently amended) ~~Device as claimed in any of the claims 9-11, characterized in that~~ The device of claim 9, wherein the device is suitable for successively positioning several printing plates placed on top of each other on the table.

13. (currently amended) ~~Device as claimed in any of the claims 9-12,~~
~~characterized in that~~ The device of claim 9, wherein the control means is adapted to
transport the printing plate, independently of the image displayed by the at least one
camera, from the table to that part of the machine being recorded by the at least one
camera.

14. (currently amended) ~~Device as claimed in claim 13, characterized in that~~
The device of claim 13, wherein the control means is adapted to compare the recorded
image to an image stored in the memory.

15. (currently amended) ~~Device as claimed in claim 14, characterized in that~~
The device of claim 14, wherein the control means is provided with software for image
comparison.

16. (currently amended) ~~Device as claimed in any of the claims 9-15, The~~
device of claim 9, wherein the camera comprises a zoom means for zooming-in on the
printing plate in order to increase the accuracy of the positioning of the printing plate.

17. (currently amended) ~~Device as claimed in any of the claims 9-16, The~~
device of claim 9, wherein the computer is adapted to repeat the sensing of the position of
the carrier, the comparing of the sensed position to the end position and the controlling of
the manipulator until the end position has been reached.

18. (currently amended) ~~Device as claimed in any of the claims 9-17, The~~
device of claim 9, wherein the manipulator comprises a displaceable carriage with pick-up
device with which a printing plate can be picked up and displaced to the carrier.

19. (currently amended) ~~Device as claimed in any of the claims 9-17, The~~
device of claim 9, wherein the manipulator comprises a displaceable pressing element for
co-displacing the printing plate to the carrier by friction.

20. (currently amended) ~~Device as claimed in any of the claims 9-19, The~~
device of claim 9, wherein the manipulator and camera are adapted to displace and ~~sens~~
sense the printing plate simultaneously.